

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An image pickup system comprising:

a camera; and

an external apparatus, the camera and the external apparatus being connected to each other via a two-way communication line, wherein

the camera comprises:

a camera operation—means operator capable of setting at least a photographing condition; and

a camera communication—means for communicator configured to allowing allow the camera to photograph based on one of a photographing condition set through the camera operation—means operator or and a photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, and

the external apparatus ~~comprises~~ comprising:

an external apparatus operation—means operator capable of setting at least the photographing condition of the camera;

a display means unit capable of displaying a set state of the photographing condition;

an external apparatus communication—means for communicator configured to ~~transmitting~~ transmit the photographing condition to the camera and ~~receiving~~

receive image data from the camera;

~~selection means for~~ a selector configured to selecting ~~select~~ between a first photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and a second photographing mode in which the external apparatus serves as the master and controls the camera to photograph; and

~~control means for setting~~ a controller configured to set the second photographing mode just after a start of camera control through the external apparatus, ~~reading~~ read photographing information set in the camera into the external apparatus, and ~~after that, setting~~ set the first or second photographing mode in accordance with the selection by the ~~selection means~~ selector.

2. (Currently amended) The photographing system according to Claim 1, wherein when a picture is taken in the first photographing mode, the camera ~~communication means~~ communicator transmits obtained image data to the external apparatus each time a picture is taken.

3. (Currently amended) The photographing system according to Claim 1, wherein

the external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator is capable of setting further configured to set a plurality of the photographing conditions of the camera, and

when the ~~control means~~ controller sets the second photographing mode, each time one of said photographing ~~condition~~ conditions is set through the external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator, the ~~control means~~ controller allows the camera to: photograph based on ~~the basis of~~ the photographing conditions including the set photographing condition; ; ~~receives~~ receive obtained image data; ; and ~~controls~~ control the display ~~means~~ unit to display the image data.

4. (Currently amended) An image pickup system comprising:

an external apparatus ~~having~~ comprising an external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator ~~capable of setting~~ configured to set a plurality of photographing conditions related to a camera, and a display means unit ~~capable of~~ configured for displaying respective set states of the photographing conditions; and

said camera having a camera ~~operation means~~ operator capable of setting at least the photographing conditions, the camera being capable of photographing based on one of the photographing conditions set through the camera ~~operation means~~ operator ~~or and~~ the photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, wherein

in photographing based on the photographing conditions set through the external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator, each time one photographing

condition is set by the external apparatus ~~operation-means~~ operator, a picture is taken ~~through~~ by the camera based on the photographing conditions including the set photographing condition, image data obtained is transmitted from the camera to the external apparatus, and the image data is displayed through the display ~~means~~ unit.

5. (Currently amended) A camera constructed so as to be connected to an external apparatus through a two-way communication line, the camera comprising:

a camera ~~operation-means~~ operator capable of setting at least a photographing condition;

a camera ~~communication-means~~ for communicator configured to allowing allow the camera to photograph based on one of a ~~the~~ photographing condition set by the camera ~~operation-means~~ operator ~~or~~ and a photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, wherein

just after the start of camera control through the external apparatus, when a selection between a first photographing mode, in which the camera serves as a master to photograph, and a second photographing mode, in which the external apparatus serves as a master and controls the camera to photograph, is performed under the control of the external apparatus to set the second photographing mode,

photographing information set in the camera is transmitted to the external apparatus in response to a request sent from the external apparatus, and ~~after that~~, a picture is taken in ~~either~~ one of the first photographing mode ~~or~~ and the second photographing mode ~~in accordance with the~~ under control of the external apparatus.

6. (Currently amended) The camera according to Claim 5, wherein in the first photographing mode, the camera ~~communication means~~ communicator transmits obtained image data to the external apparatus each time ~~one~~ a picture is taken.

7. (Previously presented) The camera according to Claim 5, wherein the camera is capable of receiving a plurality of ~~the~~ photographing conditions from the external apparatus, and

in the second photographing mode, each time one of said photographing conditions is received from the external apparatus, a picture is taken based on photographing conditions including the received photographing condition, and obtained image data is transmitted to the external apparatus.

8. (Currently amended) A camera constructed so as to be communicably connected to an external apparatus, the camera comprising:

a camera operation ~~means operator capable of configured for~~ setting at least a photographing condition; and

a camera communication ~~means communicator configured for capable of~~ allowing the camera to photograph based on one of a ~~the~~ photographing condition set through the camera ~~operation means operator~~ ~~or~~ and a photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, wherein

in photographing based on the photographing condition received from the external apparatus, each time one photographing condition is received from the external apparatus, a picture is taken based on the received photographing condition, and image data obtained by photographing is transmitted to the external apparatus.

9. (Currently amended) An external apparatus ~~constructed so as configured~~ to be connected to a camera through a two-way communication line, the external apparatus comprising:

an external apparatus operation ~~means operator~~ capable of setting at least a photographing condition of the camera;

a display ~~means unit~~ capable of displaying a set state of the photographing condition;

an external apparatus ~~communication means~~ communicator for transmitting the photographing condition and receiving image data from the camera;

~~selection means~~ a selector for selecting between a first photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and a second photographing mode in which the external apparatus serves as the master and controls the camera to photograph; and

~~control means for~~ a controller configured to: ~~setting~~ set the second photographing mode just after ~~the~~ a start of camera control through the external apparatus, ~~reading~~ read photographing information set in the camera, and ~~after that,~~ ~~setting~~ set the first or second photographing mode in accordance with the selection by the ~~selection means~~ selector.

10. (Currently amended) The external apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein in the first photographing mode, the external apparatus ~~communication means~~ communicator receives image data obtained by photographing from the camera each time a picture is taken.

11. (Currently amended) The external apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein

the external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator is ~~capable of~~ configured for

setting a plurality of the photographing conditions of the camera, and

when the ~~control means~~ controller sets the second photographing mode, each time one photographing condition is set through the external apparatus ~~operation means operator~~, the ~~control means~~ controller ~~allows~~ enables the camera to: photograph based on ~~the basis of~~ the photographing conditions including the set photographing condition, ~~receives~~ receive image data obtained by photographing, and ~~controls~~ control the display ~~means~~ unit to display the image data.

12. (Currently amended) The external apparatus according to Claim 9, further comprising:

a storage device configured to ~~means for storing~~ store image data received through the external apparatus ~~communication means~~ communicator.

13. (Currently amended) An external apparatus ~~constructed so as~~ configured to be communicably connected to a camera, the apparatus comprising:

an external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator configured for ~~capable of~~ setting ~~at least~~ a plurality of photographing conditions related to the camera; and

a display ~~means~~ unit capable of displaying respective set states of the photographing conditions, wherein

when a picture is taken through the camera based on the photographing

conditions set through the external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator, each time one photographing condition is set by the external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator, ~~the~~ a picture is taken ~~through~~ by the camera based on ~~the basis of the~~ photographing conditions including the set photographing condition, image data obtained by photographing is received, and the received image data is displayed by the display ~~means~~ unit.

14. (Currently amended) An image pickup program for enabling a computer to control a camera in order to photograph, the computer being connected to the camera through a two-way communication line, the program comprising:

an external apparatus operation procedure for setting at least a photographing condition of the camera;

a display procedure for displaying a set state of the photographing condition on a display;

an external apparatus communication procedure for transmitting the photographing condition to the camera and receiving image data from the camera through the communication line;

a selection procedure for selecting between a first photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and a second photographing mode in which the computer serves as the master and controls the camera to

photograph; and

a control procedure for setting the second photographing mode just after the start of camera control through the computer, reading photographing information set in the camera, and ~~after that~~, setting one of the first ~~or~~ and second photographing ~~mode~~ modes in accordance with the selection in the selection procedure.

15. (Currently amended) An image pickup program for enabling a computer to control a camera in order to photograph, the computer being communicably connected to the camera, the program comprising:

an external apparatus operation procedure for setting a plurality of photographing conditions related to the camera;

a display procedure for displaying respective set states of the photographing conditions on a display; and

a procedure for receiving image data obtained by photographing through the camera in order to display the image data in the display procedure, wherein

when a picture is taken through the camera based on the photographing conditions set in the external apparatus operation procedure, each time one photographing condition is set in the external apparatus operation procedure, ~~the a~~ picture is taken to obtain the image data ~~through~~ by the camera based on

photographing conditions including the set photographing condition.

16. (Currently amended) A recording medium in which a computer-readable image pickup program is recorded, the image pickup program being used to enable a computer to control a camera in order to photograph, the computer being connected to the camera through a two-way communication line, the program comprising:

an external apparatus operation procedure for setting at least a photographing condition of the camera;

a display procedure for displaying a set state of the photographing condition on a display;

an external apparatus communication procedure for transmitting the photographing conditions to the camera and receiving image data from the camera through the communication line;

a selection procedure for selecting between a first photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and a second photographing mode in which the computer serves as the master and controls the camera to photograph; and

a control procedure for setting the second photographing mode just after the start of camera control through the computer, reading photographing information

set in the camera, and ~~after that~~, setting one of the first ~~or~~ and second photographing ~~mode~~ modes in accordance with the selection in the selection procedure.

17. (Currently amended) A recording medium in which a computer-readable image pickup program is recorded, the image pickup program being used to enable a computer to control a camera in order to photograph, the computer being communicably connected to the camera, the image pickup program comprising:

an external apparatus operation procedure for setting at least a plurality of photographing conditions related to the camera;

a display procedure for displaying respective set states of the photographing conditions on a display; and

a procedure for receiving image data obtained by ~~photographing through~~ the camera to display the image data in the display procedure, wherein

when a picture is taken ~~through~~ by the camera based on the photographing conditions set in the external apparatus operation procedure, each time one photographing condition is set in the external apparatus operation procedure, ~~the a~~ picture is taken to obtain the image data through the camera based on the photographing conditions including the set photographing condition.

18. (Currently amended) An image pickup method for photographing using a camera and an external apparatus, the camera being connected to the external apparatus through a two-way communication line, the method comprising:

setting an external photographing mode in which the external apparatus serves as a master and controls the camera to photograph just after the start of camera control through the external apparatus;

transmitting photographing information, set in the camera, from the camera to the external apparatus through the communication line;

displaying at least a photographing condition received in the photographing information of the camera through a display ~~means~~ of the external apparatus;

setting the photographing condition of the camera through one of a camera ~~operation means~~ operator of the camera ~~or and an~~ external apparatus ~~operation means~~ operator of the external apparatus;

selectively setting one of a camera photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and ~~the~~ an external photographing mode;

taking a picture in the selected photographing mode to obtain an image, based on the set photographing condition;

transmitting the obtained image from the camera to the external apparatus;
and

displaying the image received by said external apparatus ~~through~~ on the

display ~~means of said external apparatus.~~

19. (Currently amended) The image pickup method according to Claim 18, further comprising:

transmitting a set photographing condition to the camera each time a photographing condition is set when the photographing condition is set by the external apparatus ~~operation—means~~ operator in the step of setting the photographing condition of the camera through one of the camera ~~operation—means~~ operator of the camera ~~or~~ and the external apparatus ~~operation—means~~ operator of the external apparatus;

photographing ~~through~~ by the camera based on the transmitted photographing condition;

transmitting image data obtained by photographing from the camera to the external apparatus; and

previewing the image data received by said external apparatus through the display ~~means~~ unit ~~of said external apparatus.~~